

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, April 22, 1863.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF PUEBLA.

The French Minister has received dispatches confirming the telegram from San Francisco with respect to the bombardment of Puebla. They state that the French have carried the first line of works around Puebla, and are confident of soon capturing the city; that their communications with Vera Cruz are uninterrupted, and that re-enforcements and supplies are arriving daily. The French troops are greatly elated by this their first substantial success in Mexico.

## EXTENSIVE CAVALRY SCOUT.

The cavalry under Gen. Stahl, in large and small bodies, have scouted the whole country between the Potomac and Rappahannock, and as far west as the Blue Ridge, and report no Rebels there, save a few straggling guerrillas and the inhabitants.

## THE MISSION TO SPAIN.

It is understood that Gov. Curtin is to have the mission to Spain, and that John Covode is to be the Union candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania.

## THE NEW INTERNAL REVENUE STAMP.

The new internal revenue stamp invented by Commissioner Lewis, and probably to be adopted in place of those now in use, will have a border around the vignette, on which are to be printed, at the top, figures representing three or four years, as '63, '64, '65, and on the sides and bottom the names of the months, and figures for the days, from 1 to 30.

The method of cancellation will be to cut out with a knife before affixing a stamp, the whole border, except the letters and figures representing the date at which the instrument is issued. This will of course render the use of a stamp twice impossible.

Stamps of a similar character have been suggested for postage. The frauds upon the Treasury, under the present system of Revenue stamps are very great, amounting, according to one computation, to \$30,000 in New-York City alone. Whether this be an exaggerated statement or not, it is certain that the sales of Revenue stamps are daily less, instead of more, as would be naturally expected. The loss to the Government through the use of cleaned postage-stamps several times are also very large.

RESIGNATION OF THE HAVANA CONSUL-GENERAL. R. W. Sheffield, Consul-General at Havana, has resigned on account of the inadequacy of his salary. His successor has not yet been appointed.

## THE NATIONAL LOAN.

The subscriptions to the national loan at the office of Jay, Cooke & Co., yesterday were \$1,919,350, being the largest amount yet subscribed in one day.

## CAPT. WORDEN.

Capt. Worden had a long interview with the President and the Secretary of the Navy to-day. He is still suffering severely in his eyes, which have not yet recovered from the injury they received in the fight with the Merrimack, life on board an iron-clad not tending to their improvement.

## THE CASE OF GEN. BUELL.

Gen. Buell left for Cincinnati to-day in order to reach there on Friday, to which day the Court stands adjourned. He did not have time while here to take the depositions of Gen. Halleck and Gov. Johnson, for which he came, and will require another order of the Court to enable him to take them. With the exception of these depositions all the evidence in the case is in.

## ARRIVAL OF SICK FROM THE LOWER POTOMAC.

Nearly 800 sick from the Lower Potomac arrived to-day.

PRISONERS OF WAR AND REFUGEES SENT IN. Twenty-five prisoners of war were sent in to-day from the Army of the Potomac. About a dozen refugees also came upon the transport.

## LETTERS OF MARQUE.

The Government has determined not to grant any letters of marque unless a foreign war should arise.

## THE TREATMENT OF CONTRABANDS.

The Commission to investigate matters pertaining to contrabands continues its labors. To-day Robert Dale Owen and Col. McKay visited the "contraband camp" at Alexandria. They have already become satisfied that a radical change is necessary in the treatment of the negroes in order to derive that benefit from their services which it is important to have. Dr. S. G. Howe, the other member of the Commission, is indisposed.

## GEN. McCLELLAN DESIRES TO RESIDE IN NEW-YORK.

Gen. McClellan has asked for a commutation of quarters in New-York.

## HOSPITAL CARES.

Three hospital cars have been put upon the Aquia Creek Railroad for the use of the General Hospitals at Potomac Creek and near Aquia Landing.

## CONGRESSIONAL MOVEMENT IN EASTERN VIRGINIA.

At a meeting of Union citizens, few in numbers, representing Fairfax, Loudon and Prince William Counties, recently held at Fairfax, the opinion prevailed that still further reports should be made to secure a representation in Congress.

## ARREST FOR UTTERING DISLOYAL SENTIMENTS.

Col. Baker's detectives also arrested John Nabors of this city, for expressing disloyal sentiments. He declined to take the oath of allegiance, and was sent to the guard-house.

## THE DUTASSY COURT-MARTIAL.

The business before the D'Utassy Court-Martial to-day was unimportant, as Col. Marshall, one of the Court, footed ill.

## PERSONAL.

Senator Foote is in town. Chief Justice Carter and Judge Olin, of the Supreme Court of the District, returned to-day.

## ARREST OF A CLERICAL REBEL.

The Rev. Mr. Martin, family and baggage arrived here to-day from Maryland, on their way to join their Union friends South. At the time the preacher was arrested the individual with whom he is charged with corresponding, was visiting at his house in Prince George's County, Maryland, opposite Alexandria, and was also taken into custody. A crowd gathered in front of Col. Baker's office on their arrival, some of whom expressed sympathy with the Rebels, but an intimation that such talk

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would insure their arrest also scattered them. The

clerical Rebel and family will be escorted outside our lines to-morrow on their way to Richmond. The other individual will be detained.

## THE SURVEY OF THE RANCHO ORESTIMBA.

Appeals having been made from the decrees for survey of the Rancho Orestimba and the Rancho San Loandros, the Supreme Court of the United States has dismissed the appeals in both cases, making the confirmation final.

## DISMISSALS FROM SERVICE.

First Lieut. Harvey Cotton, 6th Virginia Volunteers, has been dismissed the service, by a Court Martial, for drunkenness while on duty, and conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline.

First Lieut. John D. Burd, 4th Kentucky Cavalry, has been dismissed the service, by a Court Martial, for being absent without leave, conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman, and leaving his post when in command of a picket guard.

These sentences have been approved by the President.

## LAND INDEMNITY TO IOWA.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office is about sending special certificates to Iowa, authorizing the State to locate 300,000 acres of public lands, as indemnity for the same quantity of land taken from the Raccoon tract, and for which compensation was provided by the act of July 12, 1862. By that act the State also acquired the right to 225,000 acres along the Raccoon River, and having made application for the grant under the Agricultural College act, is entitled to 240,000 acres more, making a total of 765,000 acres which the State of Iowa is about to receive from the General Government.

## THE FORCE TO BE RAISED BY GOV. JOHNSON.

The force authorized to be raised by Gov. Andy Johnson is to consist of ten regiments of infantry, ten regiments of cavalry, batteries of field and light artillery, and a battalion of six companies of infantry, two companies of cavalry and a battery, in all about 29,000 men. These troops are to be enlisted for three years or the war, and it is anticipated that they will all be ready for service by the close of Summer. In case of a Fall campaign they can protect Tennessee from invasion, or assume the offensive. Leave has also been obtained to accept as parts of this force, any companies which may be tendered by Governors of other States, as some have signified their dispositions to do. Gov. Johnson will not be curious as to the complexion of his soldiers.

## THE TAX ON PRODUCTS OF IRON FOUNDRIES.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has made the following decisions with reference to the taxes imposed upon the various products of iron foundries:

1. All steam engines, whether marine, locomotive or stationary, are subject to a duty of 3 per centum ad valorem.

2. Cast-iron shafting is liable in all cases to a specific duty of \$1.53 per ton, under the act of March 3, 1857. Wrought iron shafting, if held to be a manufacture within the meaning of Division No. 71, is liable to a tax of 3 per cent ad valorem.

3. Railroad car wheels are taxable in all cases \$1.50 per ton. All other castings of iron exceeding ten pounds in weight, not otherwise provided for, are taxable \$1.50 per ton by the act of March 3, 1857.

4. Castings of all descriptions made exclusively for instruments or machinery upon which duties are assessed and paid, are exempt from duty. Sec. 2, act March 3, 1857.

5. Castings not exceeding ten pounds weight, and which are so well known and so generally used as to have a commercial value in themselves, are taxable 3 per cent ad valorem, when not otherwise provided for.

6. Castings used for bridges, buildings or other permanent structures are taxable \$1 per ton. Bridges, buildings, monuments and edifices of all descriptions, lamp posts, water, and gas pipes are not held to be permanent structures, but all such castings are taxed at the rate of \$1.50 per ton.

7. Stoves and hollow ware are taxable at the rate of \$1.50 per ton of 2,000 lb.

8. Casual and ordinary repairs are not taxable. But in the renewal of any part of an engine, as, for instance, a boiler, cylinder, piston rod, valve motion, governor, such parts being considered manufactures in themselves, are taxable, when made to replace a corresponding part of an engine broken or worn out and thrown aside. The same is true of cars and all machinery when new parts are supplied.

To the Associated Press.

PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, April 22, 1863.

PRIVATEERS FROM ENGLISH PORTS.

Intelligence from England leads to the belief that the departure of privateers from British ports will be arrested by the English Government.

## NAVAL ORDERS.

Commander Wm. F. Spicer has been ordered to the command of the steamer Cambridge of the North Atlantic Squadron, and Lieutenant-Commander Baker has been ordered for duty to the Tuscarora.

## NOTHING OF INTEREST FROM THE POTOMAC ARMY.

A dispatch to-night from the Army of the Potomac reports that there is nothing interesting to communicate.

## The U. S. Gunboat Wissahickon.

PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, April 22, 1863.

The United States gunboat Wissahickon arrived at Fortress Monroe at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon from Port Royal. She is bound to this city for repairs to her engine.

## Return of the Eighth Regiment.

ALBANY, Wednesday, April 22, 1863.

The 8th Regiment State Volunteers (a two-year regiment), will be mustered out of the service to-morrow, and will take the steamer at Aquia Creek for New-York Friday.

## Arrival of a Prize.

The British Prize steamer Gertrude of London, Acting-Master William McGlorie, from Nassau, N. P., arrived on Wednesday morning. The G. was captured on the 16th inst. off Harbor Island, by the United States steam-frigate Vanderbilt, after a chase of several hours. The Gertrude was bound to Charleston, S. C., and on arriving off that port, and finding it so closely blockaded, ventured on her return to Nassau, when she was captured. She is 250 tons, iron built, six months old, 250-horse power, and has a cargo of gunpowder and military stores. Her clearance shows her to be from Nassau, bound to St. John, N. B.

## Officers of the First Arkansas Colored Regiment.

HERNIA, Ark., April 7, 1863.

SPECIAL ORDER, No. 3.—The following officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, are announced as the officers of the 1st Regiment of Arkansas Volunteers of African descent. They will be detailed from their respective regiments to raise the troops, and as rapidly as the companies, battalions, and regiments are organized, they will be mustered out of service and discharged, and be mustered into the new regiments: Colonel, Lieut. Col. Wm. F. Wood, 1st Indiana Cavalry; Lieut. Col. Capt. Geo. Campbell, 34th Regt. Indiana Infantry; Major, Capt. Geo. Benson, 6th Regt. Ind. Infantry; Adjutant, Sergt-Major Wm. Lyon, 1st Ind. Cavalry; Regimental Quarter-Master, Com-Sergt. Ew. M. Burr, 1st Ind. Cavalry; Surgeon, Asst. Surgeon J. J. Patterson, 1st Ind. Cavalry; Assistant Surgeon, private J. A. Martin, 11th Ind. Infantry.

## Arrival of Adjutant-General Thomas at Milliken's Bend—His Purpose and the Difficulty of its Execution—Disposition of the Administration—The Subject of Negro Regiments.

From Our Special Correspondent.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE, Milliken's Bend, Madison Parish, La., Sunday Evening, April 12, 1863.

Adjutant-Gen. Thomas arrived here from Providence on the Rocket yesterday morning, for the purpose of examining into the physical and moral condition of the troops, and the competency, loyalty and honesty of the officers; having full powers, it is said, to remove all, however high their rank, who

## PASSAGE OF THE VICKSBURG BATTERIES.

may be found guilty of disloyalty or any practices unbecoming their position.

It is to be hoped some good may result from this investigation; but I fear there will be little result, albeit the effort may be earnest and energetic. Our army, there is much reason to believe, is an Angelic stable, and Gen. Thomas is not the Alcides who can cleanse it of its impurities, unless indeed he could use the mighty Mississippi as Hercules did the fabled river of old.

## LOSS OF THE TRANSPORT HENRY CLAY.

The President and Cabinet, it is understood, are not only willing but anxious that all officers opposed to the Administration, and who have not their hearts in the cause, should resign at once, and give their places to worthier and truer and more patriotic men. But this will not be of course. Those who abuse the Administration will be the last to surrender their positions; but will hold on to them with the most persevering pertinacity. They have a passion for abusing the hand that keeps them in power, and to which they owe all that they are; having neither the heart to be grateful, nor the judgment to preserve silence.

## Transport Forest Queen Considerably Damaged.

Eleven of Our Gunboats Below Vicksburg.

PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, April 22, 1863.

The Bulletin, of this city, has the following special dispatch:

CINCINNATI, Wednesday, April 22, 1863.

A special dispatch from Memphis to The Cincinnati Gazette, gives the following particulars of the passage of the Vicksburg batteries:

Seven gunboats, one ram, (the one taken from the rebels,) and three transports, started, on Thursday last, to run the blockade.

All went well until about two-thirds of the way down, when the hills back of Vicksburg were lit up with large fires.

The transport Forest Queen at once returned. The Henry Clay was compelled to stop. Several others struck her below the water line, and others passed through her. All hands made for a flat-boat, as the boat was sinking. It is believed that all were lost. The pilot floated down the river nine miles, on a plank, and was picked up opposite Warren.

The Forest Queen was considerably damaged, and had her steam-drum shot away.

At last accounts heavy firing was heard in the vicinity of Warren, supposed to be the gunboats shelling the batteries at that point.

There are eleven gunboats below Vicksburg now, including three under Farragut.

## Passage of the Warren Battery—Destruction of the Rebel Ram Vicksburg—The Indiana also Destroyed—Engagement with the Battery at Grand Gulf—Arrival at the Mouth of the Red River—Destruction of Many Small Boats and 10,000 Sacks of Corn—Arrival Within Five Miles of Port Hudson.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, April 22, 1863.

The Navy Department has received the following official dispatch, dated United States steam sloop Pensacola, off New-Orleans, April 13:

On the morning of the 27th ult., at about day-break, Admiral Farragut, in the Hartford, engaged the batteries at Warren, three miles below Vicksburg, and passed below it.

On the morning of the 28th ult., before daylight, the Albatross, having taken in a full supply of provisions from a barge which had been floated down the previous morning by Admiral Porter, also passed the Warren battery and anchored near the flag-ship.

It was blowing quite heavily from the north on the morning of the 29th. About 1 a. m. the wharf boat Vicksburg having broken adrift from her moorings at the city floated down, and ran ashore opposite to where the Hartford and Albatross were anchored.

During the day an officer was sent on board of the Vicksburg, who found that all her machinery had been removed. She had nothing on board save four muskets and accoutrements, which probably belonged to the guard.

While the Admiral was hesitating as to the propriety of retaining her as a wharf-boat, or rather depot, the Rebels came down on the night of the 30th, and burnt her.

The Switzerland, Hartford and Albatross, being all filled up with coal and provisions, which had been floated down by Gen. Grant and Admiral Porter in barges (the damages to the Switzerland being fully repaired), the vessels passed Warren on the morning of the 31st ult., and at daylight the little squadron got under way and proceeded down the river to a Mr. Turner's plantation, where, on our passage, we had seen the wreck of the Indiana.

We found no traces of the wreck, but learned that it had slid off into deep water during the late gale.

We anchored at this place and remained until about 6:30 p. m., when we got under way, proceeded down and engaged the battery at Grand Gulf.

This battery consisted of some two or three heavy guns sent down from Vicksburg. One of these guns was mounted upon a steamer, which had been coaxed up the Big Black River.

The enemy had also a light field battery. They struck the Switzerland twice, doing no damage however. The Albatross was not struck at all. The Hartford was struck only once, but this shot struck an iron hammock stanchion and threw a fragment of it forward nearly half the length of the ship and killed a man named Jones, landsman. This was the only casualty.

We passed this battery in about fifteen minutes and anchored below Grand Gulf for the night.

At daylight on the 1st inst. we got under way, and proceeded to the mouth of Red River, where we anchored about midday, destroying in our passage down a large number of skiffs and flat-boats.

We remained blockading Red River at its mouth, until the morning of the 6th inst., when we got under way at about 4:30 a. m. and proceeded down to Bayou Sara, where we stopped, seized upon and threw into the river about 10,000 sacks of corn, and then proceeded on our way to Port Hudson, where we anchored about five miles above the batteries at 3 p. m. on the 6th inst.

On the evening of the 7th instant, at 8 1/2 o'clock, the writer of this communication, the Secretary of the Rear-Admiral, left the Hartford and boarded the Richmond off Baton Rouge about 2 a. m., on the 8th instant.

The health of the Squadron above is good.

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Gen. Thomas has been rather indisposed since his arrival, but will as soon as he is able address the troops, and announce to them the policy of the Government in regard to making soldiers of the blacks.

Many of the officers in the army have displayed a strong disposition to obtain positions in the negro regiments to be raised, and have applied to Gen. Thomas for that purpose. Numerous are the lieutenants and captains, I am informed, who are anxious to resign their present places and obtain majorities and colonelcies among the new levies.

At Providence, I understand, Gen. Thomas ordered four regiments of "American citizens of African descent" to be organized, and it is probable they will soon be in the field. I know, from personal observation, that there is excellent material for troops among the contrabands of Carroll Parish, and many, with whom I have talked, are waiting an opportunity to fight against the people who have so bitterly oppressed them through a long series of painful and pernicious years.

The Duckport Canal, as the ditch five miles above Young's Point is now known, is rapidly progressing, and many think it will be completed during the coming fortnight. The labor is not very great, as the bayous will enable boats to flow through to New-Orleans with very little assistance from the State. Troops are stationed at different points along the proposed water-course, and at Richmond, twelve miles below, on the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas Railway, we have a large force; so that there is little apprehension of any interruption of the enterprise on account of the Rebels.

Within a few days two or three skirmishes have taken place in the neighborhood of Richmond, and some twenty or thirty prisoners have been captured, among them three or four line and field officers. A Kentuckian, Colonel R. S. Taylor, of the 3d Arkansas, is now one of the transports, and making the most of the privileges granted and the questions asked him, to prove how generous Nature has been in creating him a first-class ass.

The Colonel is a tall, raw-boned, fiery-faced, fiery-headed fire-eater, covered from head to heel with scurf-work, utterly regardless of taste and time. He swaggers magnificently, and declares with the broadest of negro accents that the entire military power of the world cannot conquer the South; that his future will be greater than that of any nation history has ever known; that Slavery cannot be extinguished; that it is the divinity of divine institutions, and will yield to the mighty "Confederacy," destined to embrace South America, Mexico and the West Indies, her principal strength, influence, wealth and splendor.

It is really amusing to hear how much the fellow knows without possessing the shadow of an idea. Knowing his weakness, every one sets him off, and he metamorphoses himself into a high condition of daphnology that borders upon the heroic and supernatural. The Union officers take bets on the duration of his lingo, when exploded by a single query; and altogether, in this dull place, he is better than a monkey with a red frock and two organ-grinders.

Very late Rebel papers speak of the loss of the Indiana as a full success; so there can be no doubt, if anything the Southern journals contain can be believed, that she is among the things that were.

Cannonading was plainly heard to the direct east of the yesterday morning, as if it came from the Yazoo or Big Black River; but no one has as yet been able to give a reason for the warlike sounds.

The "siege" of Vicksburg, if it can any longer be called such, is very quiet. Nothing occurring at Young's Point or Providence, though there is an active movement to-day on the river of rams and transports moving to and fro, with what purpose no one seems able to state.

Expedition in the Hushpuckapaw Region—Extensive Capture of Rebel Cotton and Mules—Destruction of Thousands of Bushels of "Confederate" Corn—Union Transports Running the Blockade of Vicksburg—Fugitives from Secession.

From Our Special Correspondent.

MILLIKEN'S BEND, Madison Parish, La., Monday Evening, April 13, 1863.

The expedition of Gen. Steele's division in the neighborhood of Greenville, Miss. (one hundred and twenty-five miles above here), and the region of the Great Sunflower River, has now been absent for eight or ten days, and has met with remarkable success—having captured twelve or fifteen hundred head of cattle, three or four hundred mules, and several thousand bushels of corn, in addition to destroying ten or twelve thousand bushels belonging to the foe.

A very considerable Rebel force is in that vicinity, probably two or three thousand men, but under whose command is unknown.

Our troops have had considerable skirmishing with the enemy, and a few Union soldiers have been wounded; but the casualties thus far are unimportant. The Confederates have retreated as our forces advanced—possibly with the expectation of drawing them into the swamps, harassing and surrounding them—an expectation in which they are doomed to disappointment.

Washington County, in which Greenville is, has been, ever since our troops have been running below Memphis, in the control of the Rebels, and they have held it all in their power to interrupt navigation by firing upon unarmed vessels from behind the protection of the levees, killing and wounding several persons since July last.

The Sunflower or Hushpuckapaw region is a rich one, producing a great deal of corn and many cattle and swine, which have been freely sent to the enemy at Vicksburg since the commencement of hostilities against the city.

The sending of a force into the county, therefore, was of no small importance, and Steele's division has seriously interfered with the supplies of the Rebels, who really have no provisions to lose, and who are as much crippled in this way as they are by disasters in the field.

Several of our old transports, protected by bales of cotton and hay, are to be run by the batteries of Vicksburg to-morrow or Wednesday night, as our troops at New Carthage are in need of boats to cross the river to the opposite shore. Only a sufficient number of men will be placed upon the vessels to escape them, and I have no doubt the boats will manage them with very little, if not without any, damage.

This enterprise I would not mention, of course, did I not know that it will have been commensurate long before my letter reaches half the way to New-York.

Adjutant-General Thomas is yet confined to his boat, the Rocket, by indisposition, which is in no manner assisted by the extremely unfavorable character of the weather—chilly, wet and unseasonable. Consequently, he has not as yet been able to address the troops, as was, and is still, his intention. His revelation and explanation of the policy of the Administration in regard to negro regiments there is much desire and anxiety to hear.

Some twenty fugitives—men, women and children—all originally from the North—have reached here within a day or two from the vicinity of Vicksburg, and will be sent to Memphis by the next boat. A number of them were shut in by the blockade at the inception of the troubles, and could not get away.

The men, most of them, were coerced into the service, and only escaped after repeated endeavors. The women, some of whom are educated, say they have had no idea of what was occurring in the world for many months; but they were led to believe that the cause of the North was hopelessly lost. All mention times of serious distress in the South; that provisions are scarce and daily growing scarcer, and that the Confederacy cannot endure them, and straining their every nerve—more than six months longer at the furthest. They have—say the fugitives—all the men they can raise in the field, and their resources are well nigh exhausted. Their losses by desertion from the ranks, sickness and death, are far greater than we imagine. They must have new recruits, new supplies, new sources of carrying on the struggle before the Summer has ended—and where will they procure them? Truly a pertinent question, and one of fearful significance to the South.

No doubt your readers are weary as I am